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**FORMER BRANCH MANAGER OF UNITED NATIONS CREDIT UNION
SENTENCED TO MORE THAN THREE YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON**

JAMES B. COMEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that BARBARA RENOR JASPER, a former branch manager for the United Nations Federal Credit Union (the "UNFCU" or "Credit Union"), was sentenced today in Manhattan federal court to 37 months in prison. Earlier this year, following a two-week jury trial, JASPER was convicted of embezzling Credit Union funds.

At today's sentencing, United States District Judge PETER K. LEISURE, who presided over JASPER's trial, also ordered JASPER to pay restitution of more than \$433,000.

The UNFCU is a federally insured credit union that serves employees of the United Nations (the "UN") and affiliated UN agencies. According to evidence introduced during the trial, JASPER worked at the UNFCU from 1984 until May of 2000. In the early 1990s, she became the Branch Manager of the UNFCU's Secretariate Branch, which is located in the main UN building.

The evidence further showed that beginning as early as September of 1997, and continuing until she was fired in May of 2000, JASPER embezzled hundreds of thousands of dollars by skimming cash from the Credit Union's automated teller machines ("ATMs"), and by falsifying and destroying records to conceal her criminal conduct. During that time period, the evidence showed, JASPER embezzled Credit Union funds on more than 200 occasions, in a total amount that exceeded \$433,000.

In a written opinion that Judge LEISURE read from the bench at today's sentencing, the judge concluded that based on the evidence introduced during trial, JASPER should be held accountable for the full amount of the funds that she embezzled from the Fall of 1997 through the Spring of 2000. Judge LEISURE also found that JASPER's sentence should reflect the degree of planning that was involved in her criminal conduct, and the fact that in embezzling funds from the branch that she managed, JASPER had abused her position of trust. Finally, JUDGE LEISURE found that JASPER had perjured herself during her testimony at trial, and that as a result, under the federal Sentencing Guidelines, a more severe sentence was required.

Mr. COMEY praised the investigative efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney DANIEL A. BRAUN is in charge of the prosecution.

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